



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCCH

15 November 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: US Army Medical Command (MEDCOM) Chaplain's CY2006 Strategic Guidance

1. Purpose. The purpose of this guidance is to focus MEDCOM Unit Ministry Team (UMT) Religious Support (RS) planning, training and execution for CY 2006 in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), and the Army Campaign Plan and is applicable to all MEDCOM UMT personnel.

2. General. MEDCOM UMTs serve Army medicine across a broad spectrum. They provide RS in medical treatment facilities, Regional Medical Commands, installation level, institutional school, and research settings.

a. MEDCOM UMTs are charged with bringing RS to a population which is increasingly "purple" and includes the military personnel of all services as well as the civilian work force assigned to our staffs. MEDCOM UMTs serve military student personnel ranging from Initial Entry Training (IET) through medical providers in post-graduate fellowship education. Our UMTs serve a patient population which includes active duty personnel, retirees, and family members. Today, during the GWOT, our MEDCOM UMTs are meeting the challenges of providing RS to Soldiers and other military personnel wounded in combat, as well providing RS to their family members, many of whom are not ID-card holders.

b. Chaplain (MG) David Hicks, our Chief of Army Chaplains, challenges us to "Take Spiritual Leadership to the Next Level". We are all together in this business of RS. We must model spiritual leadership in the ways that we care for ourselves and provide internal care within our teams. We must model spiritual leadership in our relationships with the medically-oriented UMTs serving in Combat Support Hospitals and Medical Brigades and Commands, which, while they are not a part of MEDCOM, are of great interest to us. Finally, we must model spiritual leadership in our relationships with other UMT personnel, offering them the benefit of our hard-won expertise in the provision of RS in the medical arena.

c. MEDCOM UMTs are decisively engaged every day and in every place that they serve. Looking forward to CY2006, MEDCOM UMTs will continue to make selfless sacrifices in the GWOT. They will serve in the midst of a rapidly transforming Army and a rapidly transforming MEDCOM. With flexibility, keen situational awareness, and effective staff communication, MEDCOM UMTs will ride the cresting wave of transformational change while continuing to deliver RS to the people whom we are charged to serve.

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3. Training. During CY2006, all MEDCOM UMT personnel will attend at least one annual training event approved by the MEDCOM Command Chaplain.

a. Chaplains. The annual requirement to attend training ensures quality performance and keeps competencies current. Many Chaplains require this annual training to retain certification of their clinical and/or ecclesiastical credentials. Chaplains at every level will attend one professional short course each year. Chaplains on SMART teams will attend training IAW SMART team requirements as described in MEDCOM Regulation 525-4 (Army Medical Command Emergency Plan) and Draft MEDCOM Pam 525-xx (Emergency Planning-TBP).

b. Chaplain Assistants. Chaplain Assistants (56M) usually come to MEDCOM with little or no training in the clinical environment. Training is necessary in order to provide quality 56M support at the MEDDAC and MEDCEN level. Supervisors will schedule Chaplain Assistants for training at the Emergency Medical Ministry Course within six months of arrival in MEDCOM. Chaplain Assistants on SMART-PC teams will attend the Critical Incident Stress Management Short Course and required training IAW SMART team requirements as described in MEDCOM Regulation 525-4 (Army Medical Command Emergency Plan) and Draft MEDCOM Pam 525-xx (Emergency Planning-TBP).

c. Approved Training. The following courses are approved. Other training may fulfill the training requirement, but must be approved by the MEDCOM Command Chaplain.

1. AMEDDC&S post-graduate professional short course (Emergency Medical Ministry, Critical Incident Stress Management; Homiletics; Spiritual Health; and Substance Abuse).

2. MEDCOM Senior Leader Training Conference.

3. Relevant DACH sponsored courses.

4. POC is CH (MAJ) Scott Jones, DSN 471-6140, COMM (210) 221-6140 or scott.jones1@us.army.mil.



PAUL E. CLARK
Chaplain (Colonel) US Army
Command Chaplain

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